

Docket No. AUS920030942US1

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

### SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMPROVED USER INPUT ON PERSONAL COMPUTING DEVICES

A user input mechanism is provided that allows a user to enter words as gestures on a virtual keyboard presented on the display device. The user input mechanism combines two existing and prevalent forms of user input: cursive handwriting and keyboard input. A familiar keyboard layout is presented on the display. A user then may place an implement, such as a stylus or the user's finger, in contact with the display. Typically, the implement will first touch the screen at a position of a first character in a word. The user then may move the implement along the surface of the display from character to character, spelling out a word.